

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. In the Official Action mailed October 26, 2004, the Examiner allowed claims 2-11 and rejected claim 1.

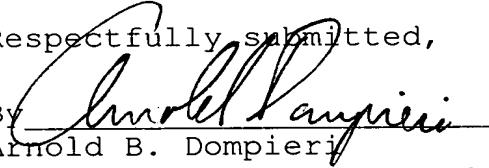
Applicants have canceled claim 1. This application, therefore, now is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request the timely issuance of a notice of allowance. If for any reason, however, the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner telephone Applicants' attorney at 908-654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections that the Examiner may have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account Number 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: December 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By


Arnold B. Dompieri

Registration No.: 29,736
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP
600 South Avenue West
Westfield, 07090
(908) 654-5000
Attorney for Applicants

532579_1.DOC